



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Attorney Docket No. 040301-0575**

Applicant: Shigeo MATSUZAWA et al.  
Title: ROUTER DEVICE AND CUT-THROUGH PATH CONTROL  
METHOD FOR REALIZING LOAD BALANCING AT  
INTERMEDIATE ROUTERS  
Application No.: 09/429,632  
Filing Date: October 29, 1999  
Examiner: Ho, Chuong T.  
Art Unit: 2664

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated May 4, 2004, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Applicants have enclosed with this amendment a Petition for Extension of Time for three months to make this response timely.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: